In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A self-contained, portable music player comprising:

a rechargeable battery pack for powering the music player;

an input/output device including at least a keypad for receiving user inputs and a display;

a memory capable of storing digital music in at least one compressed digital format;

a data processor connected to said input/output device and said memory, said data processor programmed to decompress said digital music into uncompressed digital music samples;

an audio coder-decoder connected to said data processor for receiving said uncompressed digital music samples from said data processor and converting said uncompressed digital music samples into analog music;

a headset connector connected to said audio coder-decoder for supplying said analog music to an external headset earphone; and

a base connector including

a power connection connected to said rechargeable battery pack capable of receiving charging power from an external base unit,

an analog output connection connected to said audio coder-decoder for supplying said analog music to an external base unit for amplification and reproduction via speakers, and

an analog input connection connected to said audio coder-decoder for receiving an analog input from an external base unit;

wherein the self-contained, portable music player operates in

a portable mode disconnected from a base unit and powered by said rechargeable battery pack, wherein a user may listen to selected digital music stored in said memory via an external headset earphone, and

in a base mode connected to a base unit via said base connector and powered via said power connector, wherein a user may listen to selected digital music stored in said memory via speakers of an external base unit and wherein a user may listen to music received on said analog input connection of said base connector.

2. (Original) The self-contained, portable music player of claim 1, wherein:

said data processor is further programmed in cooperation with input/output device whereby a user may enter volume control data via said keypad; and

said base connector further includes a volume data connection for transmission of volume control data from the self-contained, portable music player to an external base unit.

3. (Original) The self-contained, portable music player of claim 1, wherein:

said base connector further includes a set of digital connections connected to said data processor and said audio coder-decoder for bi-directional transmission of digital data with an external base unit.

4. (Original) The self-contained, portable music player of claim 1, further comprising:

an infrared transmission interface connected to said data processor for bi-directional transmission of digital data with an external base unit.

5. (Original) The self-contained, portable music player of claim 1, further comprising:

a microphone;

a pre-amplifier having an input connected to said microphone and an output connected to said audio coder-decoder;

wherein said audio coder-decoder digitizes sound received by said microphone, said data processor programmed to store said digitized sounds in said memory.

6. (Original) The self-contained, portable music player of claim 5, wherein:

said data processor is further programmed to compress said digitized sounds into a compressed digital format and store said compressed digital format in said memory.

7. (Original) The self-contained, portable music player of claim 5, wherein:

said data processor is further programmed to

recall digitized sounds stored in said memory, and

compress said recalled digitized sounds into a compressed digital format and store said compressed digital format in said memory.

8. (Previously Presented) The self-contained, portable music player of claim 1, wherein:

said audio coder-decoder digitizes analog input received via said analog input connection, said data processor programmed to store said digitized analog input in said memory.

9. (Original) The self-contained, portable music player of claim 8, wherein:

said data processor is further programmed to compress said digitized analog input into a compressed digital format and store said compressed digital format in said memory.

10. (Original) The self-contained, portable music player of claim 8, wherein:

said data processor is further programmed to

recall digitized analog input stored in said memory, and

compress said recalled digitized analog input into a compressed digital format and store said compressed digital format in said memory.

11. (Original) The self-contained, portable music player of claim 1, wherein:

said memory is a non-volatile memory capable of retaining data in the absence of electric power.

12. (Original) The self-contained, portable music player of claim 1, wherein:

said data processor is a digital signal processor.

13. (Previously Presented) A music system comprising:

a self-contained, portable music player including

a rechargeable battery pack for powering the music player,

an input/output device including at least a keypad for receiving user inputs and a display;

a memory capable of storing digital music in at least one compressed digital format,

a data processor connected to said input/output device and said memory, said data processor programmed to decompress said digital music into uncompressed digital music samples,

an audio coder-decoder connected to said data processor for receiving said uncompressed digital music samples from said data processor and converting said uncompressed digital music samples into analog music,

a headset connector connected to said audio coder-decoder for supplying said analog music to an external headset earphone, and

a first base connector including

a first power connection connected to said rechargeable battery pack capable of receiving charging power from an external base unit, and

a player analog output connection connected to said audio coder-decoder for supplying said analog music, and

an analog input connection connected to said audio coder-decoder for receiving an analog input; and

a base unit including

a second base connector including

a second power connection for connection to said first power connection,

an analog input connection for connection to said player analog output connection of said first base connector,

a base unit analog output connection for connection to said analog input connection of said first base connector,

a power source connected to said second power connection for supplying recharging power for said rechargeable battery pack,

a pre-amplifier having an input connected to said analog input connection and an output,

a power amplifier having an input connected to said output of said pre-amplifier and an output,

a tuner for receiving and demodulating analog audio signals, said tuner supplying said analog audio signals to said base unit analog output connection, and

a speaker system connected to said output of said power amplifier for reproducing sound corresponding to said output of said power amplifier,

wherein the music system operates in

a portable mode wherein said self-contained, portable music player is disconnected from said base unit and powered by said rechargeable battery pack, wherein a user may listen to selected digital music stored in said memory via an external headset earphone, and

in a base mode wherein said self-contained, portable music player is connected to said base unit via said first base connector and said second base connector and powered from said power source, wherein a user may listen to selected digital music stored in said memory via speakers of an external base unit and wherein a user may listen to music from said tuner supplied to said analog input connection of said first base connector.

14. (Currently Amended) The music system of claim 13, wherein:

said data processor is further programmed in cooperation with input/output device whereby a user may enter volume control data via said keypad;

said first base connector further includes a volume data output connection for transmission of volume control data from the self-contained, portable music player;

said second base connector further includes a volume data input connection for connection to said volume data output connection; and

said pre-amplifier is further connected to said volume data input connection and producing an amount of amplification corresponding ~~thereto~~ to the volume control data.

15. (Original) The music system of claim 13, wherein:

said first base connector further includes a set of first digital connections connected to said data processor and said audio coder-decoder for bi-directional transmission of digital data with an external base unit;

said second base connector further includes a set of second digital connections for connection to said set of first digital connections; and

said base unit further includes a disc drive connected to said set of second digital connections of said second base connector capable of storing and recalling digital data.

16. (Original) The music system of claim 13, further comprising:

an infrared transmission interface connected to said data processor for bi-directional transmission of digital data with an external base unit.

17. (Original) The music system of claim 1, further comprising:

a microphone;

a pre-amplifier having an input connected to said microphone and an output connected to said audio coder-decoder;

wherein said audio coder-decoder digitizes sound received by said microphone, said data processor programmed to store said digitized sounds in said memory.

18. (Original) The music system of claim 17, wherein:

said data processor is further programmed to compress said digitized sounds into a compressed digital format and store said compressed digital format in said memory.

19. (Original) The music system of claim 17, wherein:

said data processor is further programmed to

recall digitized sounds stored in said memory, and

compress said recalled digitized sounds into a compressed digital format and store said compressed digital format in said memory.

20. (Previously Presented) The music system of claim 13, wherein:

wherein said audio coder-decoder digitizes analog input received via said player analog input connection, said data processor programmed to store said digitized analog input in said memory.

21. (Original) The music system of claim 20, wherein:

said data processor is further programmed to compress said digitized analog input into a compressed digital format and store said compressed digital format in said memory.

22. (Original) The music system of claim 20, wherein:

said data processor is further programmed to

recall digitized analog input stored in said memory, and

compress said recalled digitized analog input into a compressed digital format and store said compressed digital format in said memory.

23. (Original) The music system of claim 13, wherein:
said memory is a non-volatile memory capable of retaining data in the absence of electric power.

24. (Original) The music system of claim 13, wherein:
said data processor is a digital signal processor.

25. (Previously Presented) A base unit for use with a self-contained, portable music player comprising:
a tuner for receiving and demodulating analog audio signals;
a base connector including
a power connection,
an analog input connection for receiving an analog input,
a base unit analog output connection connected to said tuner to output demodulated analog audio signals;
a power source connected to said power connection for supplying recharging power for the self-contained, portable music player;
a pre-amplifier having an input connected to said analog input connection and an output,
a power amplifier having an input connected to said output of said pre-amplifier and an output, and
a speaker system connected to said output of said power amplifier for reproducing sound corresponding to said output of said power amplifier.

26. (Currently Amended) The base unit of claim 25, wherein:
said base connector further includes a volume data input connection for receiving of volume control data from the self-contained, portable music player;

said pre-amplifier is further connected to said volume data input connection and producing an amount of amplification corresponding ~~thereto~~ to the volume control data.

27. (Original) The base unit of claim 25, wherein:

said base connector further includes a set of digital connections for connection to a set of digital connections of the self-contained, portable music player; and

said base unit further includes a disc drive connected to said digital connections of said base connector capable of storing and recalling digital data.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The self-contained, portable music player of claim 1, wherein:

said base connector further includes a digital data bus connection for bidirectional data exchange; and

said data processor being further connected to said digital data bus connection of said base connector for communicating station selection data corresponding to inputs received from said input/output device via said digital data bus connection to the base unit.

30. (Previously Presented) The music system of claim 13, wherein:

said self-contained, portable music player wherein

said first base connector further includes a first digital data bus connection for bidirectional data exchange and

said data processor being further connected to said first digital data bus connection of said base connector for

communicating station selection data corresponding to inputs received from said input/output device via said first digital data bus connection to the base unit;

said base unit wherein

said second base connector further includes a second digital data bus connection for connection to said first digital data bus connection for receiving digital data including station selection data, and

said tuner being connected to said second digital data bus connection and further selecting a station corresponding to said station selection data.

31. (Previously Presented) The base unit of claim 25, wherein:

said base connector further includes a digital data bus connection for receiving digital data including station selection data; and

said tuner being connected to said digital data bus connection and further selecting a station corresponding to said station selection data.

32. (New) The music system of claim 14, wherein:

said base unit includes no volume control input.

33. (New) The base unit of claim 26, wherein:

said base unit includes no volume control input.

34. (New) The music system of claim 30, wherein:

said base unit includes no station selection input.

35. (New) The base unit of claim 31, wherein:

said base unit includes no station selection input.

36. (New) A self-contained, portable music player comprising:

a rechargeable battery pack for powering the music player;

an input/output device including at least a keypad for receiving user inputs and a display;

a memory capable of storing digital music in at least one compressed digital format;

a data processor connected to said input/output device and said memory, said data processor programmed to decompress said digital music into uncompressed digital music samples, said data processor further programmed in cooperation with input/output device whereby a user may enter volume control data via said keypad;

an audio coder-decoder connected to said data processor for receiving said uncompressed digital music samples from said data processor and converting said uncompressed digital music samples into analog music;

a headset connector connected to said audio coder-decoder for supplying said analog music to an external headset earphone; and

a base connector including

a power connection connected to said rechargeable battery pack capable of receiving charging power from an external base unit,

an analog output connection connected to said audio coder-decoder for supplying said analog music to an external base unit for amplification and reproduction via speakers, and

a volume control data output connection for transmission of volume control data from the self-contained, portable music player to an external base unit; and

wherein the self-contained, portable music player operates in

a portable mode disconnected from a base unit and powered by said rechargeable battery pack, wherein a user may listen

to selected digital music stored in said memory via an external headset earphone, and

in a base mode connected to a base unit via said base connector and powered via said power connector, wherein a user may listen to selected digital music stored in said memory via speakers of an external base unit and control listening volume via said volume control data.

37. (New) The self-contained, portable music player of claim 36, wherein:

said base connector further includes a station selection data output connection; and

said data processor being further programmed in cooperation with input/output device whereby a user may enter station selection data via said keypad, said data processor being further connected to said station selection data output connection of said base connector for communicating station selection data corresponding to inputs received from said input/output device via said station selection output connection to the external base unit.

38. (New) A music system comprising:

a self-contained, portable music player including

a rechargeable battery pack for powering the music player,

an input/output device including at least a keypad for receiving user inputs and a display;

a memory capable of storing digital music in at least one compressed digital format,

a data processor connected to said input/output device and said memory, said data processor programmed to decompress said digital music into uncompressed digital music samples, said data processor further programmed in cooperation with

input/output device whereby a user may enter volume control data via said keypad,

an audio coder-decoder connected to said data processor for receiving said uncompressed digital music samples from said data processor and converting said uncompressed digital music samples into analog music,

a headset connector connected to said audio coder-decoder for supplying said analog music to an external headset earphone, and

a first base connector including

a first power connection connected to said rechargeable battery pack capable of receiving charging power from an external base unit,

a player analog output connection connected to said audio coder-decoder for supplying said analog music, and

a volume control data output connection for transmission of volume control data from the self-contained, portable music player; and

a base unit including

a second base connector including

a second power connection for connection to said first power connection,

an analog input connection for connection to said player analog output connection of said first base connector,

a volume control data input connection for connection to said player volume control data output connection of said first base connector,

a power source connected to said second power connection for supplying recharging power for said rechargeable battery pack,

a pre-amplifier having an input connected to said analog input connection and an output, said pre-amplifier further connected to said volume control data input connection and producing an amount of amplification corresponding to the volume control data,

a power amplifier having an input connected to said output of said pre-amplifier and an output,

a speaker system connected to said output of said power amplifier for reproducing sound corresponding to said output of said power amplifier,

said base unit having no input for volume control; and wherein the music system operates in

a portable mode wherein said self-contained, portable music player is disconnected from said base unit and powered by said rechargeable battery pack, wherein a user may listen to selected digital music stored in said memory via an external headset earphone, and

in a base mode wherein said self-contained, portable music player is connected to said base unit via said first base connector and said second base connector and powered from said power source, wherein a user may listen to selected digital music stored in said memory via speakers of an external base unit and control listening volume via said volume control data.

39. (New) The music system of claim 38, wherein:

said self-contained portable music player wherein

said first base connector further includes a station selection data output connection, and

said data processor being further programmed in cooperation with input/output device whereby a user may enter station selection data via said keypad, said data processor

being further connected to said station selection data output connection of said first base connector for communicating station selection data corresponding to inputs received from said input/output device via said station selection output connection;

said base unit wherein

said second base connector further includes a station selection data input connection for connection to said player station selection data output connection of said first base connector,

said base unit further including a tuner for receiving and demodulating analog audio signals and connected to said station selection data input connection of said second base connector for selecting a station corresponding to said station selection data; and

said base unit having no input for station selection.

40. (New) A base unit for use with a self-contained, portable music player comprising:

a base connector including

a power connection,

an analog input connection for receiving an analog input,

a volume control data input connection for receiving volume control data;

a power source connected to said power connection for supplying recharging power for the self-contained, portable music player;

a pre-amplifier having an input connected to said analog input connection and an output, said pre-amplifier further connected to said volume control data input connection and producing an amount of amplification corresponding to the volume control data;

a power amplifier having an input connected to said output of said pre-amplifier and an output;

a speaker system connected to said output of said power amplifier for reproducing sound corresponding to said output of said power amplifier;

said base unit having no input for volume control.

41. (New) The base unit of claim 40, wherein:

said base connector further includes a station selection data input connection for receiving station selection data;

said base unit further including a tuner for receiving and demodulating analog audio signals and connected to said station selection data input connection of said base connector for selecting a station corresponding to said station selection data; and

said base unit having no input for station selection.

42. (New) A self-contained, portable music player comprising:

a rechargeable battery pack for powering the music player;

an input/output device including at least a keypad for receiving user inputs and a display;

a memory capable of storing digital music in at least one compressed digital format;

a data processor connected to said input/output device and said memory, said data processor programmed to decompress said digital music into uncompressed digital music samples, said data processor further programmed in cooperation with input/output device whereby a user may enter station selection data via said keypad;

an audio coder-decoder connected to said data processor for receiving said uncompressed digital music samples from said data

processor and converting said uncompressed digital music samples into analog music;

a headset connector connected to said audio coder-decoder for supplying said analog music to an external headset earphone; and

a base connector including

a power connection connected to said rechargeable battery pack capable of receiving charging power from an external base unit,

an analog output connection connected to said audio coder-decoder for supplying said analog music to an external base unit for amplification and reproduction via speakers, and

a station selection data output connection for transmission of station selection data from the self-contained, portable music player to an external base unit; and

wherein the self-contained, portable music player operates in

a portable mode disconnected from a base unit and powered by said rechargeable battery pack, wherein a user may listen to selected digital music stored in said memory via an external headset earphone, and

in a base mode connected to a base unit via said base connector and powered via said power connector, wherein a user may listen to selected digital music stored in said memory via speakers of an external base unit and control station selection of a tuner via said station selection data.

43. (New) A music system comprising:

a self-contained, portable music player including

a rechargeable battery pack for powering the music player,

an input/output device including at least a keypad for receiving user inputs and a display;

a memory capable of storing digital music in at least one compressed digital format,

a data processor connected to said input/output device and said memory, said data processor programmed to decompress said digital music into uncompressed digital music samples, said data processor further programmed in cooperation with input/output device whereby a user may enter station selection data via said keypad,

an audio coder-decoder connected to said data processor for receiving said uncompressed digital music samples from said data processor and converting said uncompressed digital music samples into analog music,

a headset connector connected to said audio coder-decoder for supplying said analog music to an external headset earphone, and

a first base connector including

a first power connection connected to said rechargeable battery pack capable of receiving charging power from an external base unit,

a player analog output connection connected to said audio coder-decoder for supplying said analog music, and

a station selection data output connection for transmission of station selection data from the self-contained, portable music player; and

a base unit including

a second base connector including

a second power connection for connection to said first power connection,

an analog input connection for connection to said player analog output connection of said first base connector,

a station selection data input connection for connection to said player station selection data output connection of said first base connector,

a power source connected to said second power connection for supplying recharging power for said rechargeable battery pack,

a pre-amplifier having an input connected to said analog input connection and an output,

a power amplifier having an input connected to said output of said pre-amplifier and an output,

a speaker system connected to said output of said power amplifier for reproducing sound corresponding to said output of said power amplifier,

a tuner for receiving and demodulating analog audio signals and connected to said station selection data input connection of said second base connector for selecting a station corresponding to said station selection data; and

said base unit having no input for station selection; and wherein the music system operates in

a portable mode wherein said self-contained, portable music player is disconnected from said base unit and powered by said rechargeable battery pack, wherein a user may listen to selected digital music stored in said memory via an external headset earphone, and

in a base mode wherein said self-contained, portable music player is connected to said base unit via said first base connector and said second base connector and powered from said power source, wherein a user may listen to selected digital music stored in said memory via speakers of an external base unit and control station selection of the tuner via said station selection data entered via said portable music player input/output device.

44. (New) A base unit for use with a self-contained, portable music player comprising:

a base connector including

a power connection,

an analog input connection for receiving an analog input,

a station selection data input connection for receiving station selection data;

a power source connected to said power connection for supplying recharging power for the self-contained, portable music player;

a pre-amplifier having an input connected to said analog input connection and an output;

a power amplifier having an input connected to said output of said pre-amplifier and an output;

a speaker system connected to said output of said power amplifier for reproducing sound corresponding to said output of said power amplifier;

a tuner for receiving and demodulating analog audio signals and connected to said station selection data input connection of said base connector for selecting a station corresponding to said station selection data; and

said base unit having no input for station selection.